

**ABSTRACT**

A method of relieving stress in a window covering or other fabric composite by providing a fabric composite including first and second sheets of sheer material coupled to each other by a plurality of vanes. The fabric composite is fed along a pathway, and tension is applied to the fabric composite in directions both substantially perpendicular and substantially parallel to the pathway. The tensioned fabric composite passes adjacent to a plurality of heating units which apply heat to the window covering, removing creases and imperfections from the fabric composite. The tension is then removed from the fabric composite in the directions both parallel and perpendicular to the pathway.